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09/943,786	08/31/2001	Michel Shane Simpson	1363-007	1045

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EXAMINER	
LY, ANH	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/943,786	SIMPSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anh Ly	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11//19/2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *21-41* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *1-20* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *21-41* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicant's RESPONSE filed on 11/19/2007.

2. Claims 21-41 are pending in this Application.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 11/19/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claims 31 and 41 are non-statutory. Because the "computer readable media" may contain data and instruction understandable under propagated signals including electrical pulses, infrared, radio or microwave as described in the specification page 7, lines 18-22).

Applicants argued that, "Vigil does not teach disparate directories, but a single homogeneous directory" (pages 11-14, in the remarks).

Examiner respectfully disagrees as argued. In response to Applicants, arguments, Vigil teaches directory systems and X.500 directories (see abstract, and col. 1, lines 12-25 and col. 2, lines 10-35; and, also, fig. 1, item 106, DISH (directory shell) providing a user interface which facilities setup and management of directory services using multiple directory service agents: figs. 2 and 13; col. 4, lines 42-62, col. 5, lines 45-58 and col. 6, lines 15-20), each having a directory class, the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories (fig. 2 and 13, different name of attribute, dissimilar with each another; also see col. 1, lines 40-53). In addition to this, also, Venkataramaiah

teaches hierarchical structure directories in LDAP directories for manipulating the directories in the system (paragraph 0008).

Applicants argued that, "the combination of Vigil and VENKA is improper" (pages 16, and 19, in the remarks).

Examiner respectfully disagrees as argued. In response to Applicants' arguments.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988)and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Vigil and VENKA are from the same field of endeavor and both are directed to X.500 and LDAP, directory service enabling user to search, retrieve, access or manipulate the directories on the system. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to modify the teachings of Vigil and VENKA because that would provide Vigil's system the enhanced capability of handling one or more databases locally or remotely from any point in the network, thereby, enabling the user to manipulate data at any time over the compute network. Moreover, the examiner kindly submits that the applicants misread the applicable references used in the last office action. However, when read and analyzed in light the specification, the invention as claimed does not support applicant's

assertions. Actually, applicants are interpreting the claims very narrow without considering the broad teaching of the references used in the rejections. Additionally, it is important to note that the examiner interpretation of the claims, wherein, the examiner explicitly stated passages in the cited references which were not even addressed. The aforementioned assertion wherein all the limitations are not taught or suggested by the prior of record, was unsupported by objective factual evidence and was not found to be substantial evidentiary value. The examiner has provided in the last office action, a convincing one of reasoning as to why the artisan would have found the claimed invention to have been obvious in light of the teachings of the cited references. Applicants are reminded that 37 CFR 1.111(b) states, a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention without specifically printing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references does not comply with the requirements of this section. Therefore, the applicants have failed to provided prima facie evidence how the language of the claims patentably distinguished them from the cited references. Hence, the applicants' assertions are just mere allegation with no supported fact. In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a

reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

Applicants argued that, "nothing in all of Vigil mention a "driver". (page 18, the 3rd paragraph, in the remarks).

Examiner respectfully disagrees as argued. In response to Applicants' arguments. First of all, the "driver" in the claimed invention is a kind of software or utility for managing the directory. Vigil teaches user interface for user to access or manage of data within the X.500 directory. Here, examiner interpreted it as a software to interact with user interface for user to access the directory as shown in figs. 3-12 or col. 6, lines 10-67).

Applicants argued that, "no "direct searching" in the Vigil and VENKA combination" (pages 19-21, in the remark).

Examiner respectfully disagrees as argued. In response to Applicants arguments, Vigil teaches finding information within X.500 directories the system via a user request (col. 1, 15-20 and lines 50-58; col. 3, lines 10-20 and col. 5, lines 8-18). Also, VENKA teaches receiving the user's request to retrieve data over the Internet system via LDAP server as shown in fig. 1 (VENKA's paragraphs 0029-0031; also, paragraphs 0023-0024).

For the above reasons, Examiner believed that rejection of the last Office action was proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 31 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the "computer readable media" based on the specification (page 7, lines 18-22) is carrying signals. Signal such as electrical, electromagnetic or digital signal is drawn to form of energy, which is non-statutory subject matter.

Energy is not one of the four categories of invention and therefore this (these) claim(s) is (are) non-statutory. Energy is not a series of steps or acts and thus is not a process. Energy is not a physical article or object and as such is not a machine or manufacture. Energy is not a combination of substances and therefor not a composition of matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 21-25, 26-29 and 31-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,758,343 issued to Vigil et al. (hereinafter Vigil) in view of 2002/0032775 A1 of Venkataramaiah et al. (hereinafter VENKA).

With respect to claim 21, Vigil teaches a computer system (fig. 1) comprising:

a directory shell able to reference two or more disparate directory (fig. 1, item 106, DISH (directory shell) providing a user interface which facilities setup and management of directory services using multiple directory service agents: figs. 2 and 13; col. 4, lines 42-62, col. 5, lines 45-58 and col. 6, lines 15-20), each having a directory class, the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories (fig. 2 and 13, different name of attribute, dissimilar with each another; also see col. 1, lines 40-53); and

an administrator utility with the directory shell configurable to associate the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories (figs. 3-12, administration utilities for setup and managing the multiple directory service agents: col. 6, lines 10-67, col. 7, lines 1-67 and col. 8, lines 1-8).

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach a directory browser with the directory shell whereby users can search the directory classes with a single query of the user-searchable category.

However, VENKA teaches a system allowing data processing among multiple physical locations using LDAP database effectively transforming multiple directory server (LDAP servers) or directory service agents into a logical database, from which a user send a request to search or query data in one or more databases (abstract, sections 0003, 007, 0024 and 0029-0031 and fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

With respect to claim 22, Vigil teaches wherein the two or more disparate directories are managed on a plurality of servers in communication with a computer onto which the directory shell is loaded (figs. 1 and 2 and col. 4, lines 22-67).

With respect to claim 23, Vigil teaches a computer system as discussed in the claim 21.

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach a directory interface operable to send the single query.

However, VENKA teaches a system allowing data processing among multiple physical locations using LDAP database effectively transforming multiple directory server (LDAP servers) or directory service agents into a logical database, from which a user send a request to search or query data in one or more databases (abstract, sections 0003, 007, 0024 and 0029-0031 and fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one

or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

With respect to claim 24, Vigil teaches further including a director driver for each of the two or more disparate directories to allow the directory interface to communicate therewith (figs. 1 and 2, col. 6, lines 10-67).

With respect to claim 25, Vigil teaches wherein the user-searchable category includes a category attribute mapped to one or more class attributes of the directory class (figs 2 and 13; col. 5, lines 45-67 and col. 6, lines 1-8; also see col. 1, lines 40-67.abstract, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 27, Vigil teaches wherein the administrator utility Further includes a table for associating the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of directories (figs. 1-13).

With respect to claim 28, Vigil teaches a method of searching in a computer system (see fig.1 and abstract), comprising:

providing a directory shell with an administrator utility and a directory browser for loading onto a computer; and enabling the administrator utility to associate directory classes into a single user-searchable category (figs. 1-12; and fig. 1, item 106, DISH (directory shell) providing a user interface which facilities setup and management of directory services using multiple directory service agents: figs. 2 and 13; col. 4, lines 42-62, col. 5, lines 45-58 and col. 6, lines 15-20; fig. 2 and 13, different name of attribute, dissimilar with each another; also see col. 1, lines 40-53; and figs. 3-12, administration

utilities for setup and managing the multiple directory service agents: col. 6, lines 10-67, col. 7, lines 1-67 and col. 8, lines 1-8).

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach a directory browser with the directory shell whereby users can search the directory classes with a single query of the user-searchable category.

However, VENKA teaches a system allowing data processing among multiple physical locations using LDAP database effectively transforming multiple directory server (LDAP servers) or directory service agents into a logical database, from which a user send a request to search or query data in one or more databases (abstract, sections 0003, 007, 0024 and 0029-0031 and fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

With respect to claim 29, Vigil teaches a method as discussed in the claim 28.

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach mapping a category attribute of the single user-searchable category to one or more class attributes of the directory class.

However, VENKA teaches a system allowing data processing among multiple physical locations using LDAP database effectively transforming multiple directory server (LDAP servers) or directory service agents into a logical database, from which a user send a request to search or query data in one or more databases (abstract, sections 0003, 007, 0024 and 0029-0031 and fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

Claim 31 is essentially the same as claim 28 except that it is directed to a computer readable medium rather than a method, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 28 hereinabove.

With respect to claim 32, Vigil teaches a computer system (fig. 1), comprising: a directory shell for loading on a computer in communication with one or more servers having two or more disparate directories each with a directory class, the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories, the directory shell having an administrator utility and a directory browser; a table in the administrator utility configurable to associate the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories, the result of associating the directory classes being a user-searchable category; and a panel in the directory browser where users can view search results (fig. 1, item 106, DISH (directory shell) providing a user interface which facilities setup and management of directory services using multiple directory service agents: figs. 2 and 13; col. 4, lines 42-62, col. 5, lines 45-58 and col. 6, lines 15-20; fig. 2 and 13, different name of attribute, dissimilar with each another; also see col. 1, lines 40-53; and figs. 3-12, administration utilities for setup and managing the multiple directory service agents: col. 6, lines 10-67, col. 7, lines 1-67 and col. 8, lines 1-8).

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the

computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach a single query of the user-searchable category.

However, VENKA teaches a system allowing data processing among multiple physical locations using LDAP database effectively transforming multiple directory server (LDAP servers) or directory service agents into a logical database, from which a user send a request to search or query data in one or more databases (abstract, sections 0003, 007, 0024 and 0029-0031 and fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

With respect to claim 33, Vigil teaches wherein the query portion and the panel are on a same page of the directory browser (fig. 2-12).

With respect to claim 34, Vigil teaches wherein the table includes one or more check boxes for the associating of the directory classes (figs. 2 and 13).

With respect to claim 35, Vigil teaches wherein the table includes an enable column to indicate directory classes associated with the user-searchable category (figs. 3-12).

With respect to claim 36, Vigil teaches a system as discussed in the claim 32.

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach to be displayed in HTML format.

However, VENKA teaches using HTML, XML and DSML for LDAP and display the result (sections 0034-0035).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

With respect to claim 37, Vigil teaches a method of searching in a computer system (fig. 1) , comprising:

Vigil teaches directory interface shell for setup and managing multiple directory service agents having different name attribute and searching or querying or locating the object via the disparate directories under X.500 or LDAP compliant directories over the computer network as shown in fig. 1. Vigil does not clearly teach a single query of user-searchable category.

However, VENKA teaches a system allowing data processing among multiple physical locations using LDAP database effectively transforming multiple directory server (LDAP servers) or directory service agents into a logical database, from which a user send a request to search or query data in one or more databases (abstract, sections 0003, 007, 0024 and 0029-0031 and fig. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil with the teachings of VENKA. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of an interface from which a user sends a request to query data in one or more database over the network as disclosed (VENKA's fig. 1 and sections 0030-0031), into the system of accessing data in one or more database locally or remotely from any point in the network, and which in turn may store, update, delete and /or query the data in one or more databases (VENKA's section 0003), thereby, enabling user to change data at any time over the distributed database network (VENKA's sections 0018-0019).

With respect to claim 38, Vigil teaches wherein the creating further includes associating, in an administrator utility, the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories (figs 2 and 13).

With respect to claim 39, Vigil teaches wherein creating further includes creating additional user-searchable categories for additional directory classes of the two or more directories (figs 3-12).

With respect to claim 40, Vigil teaches wherein the creating further includes providing a directory shell for loading on a computer in communication with one or more servers having the two or more disparate directories (figs 3-12).

Claim 41 is essentially the same as claim 37 except that it is directed to a computer readable medium rather than a method, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 37 hereinabove.

6. Claims 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,758,343 issued to Vigil et al. (hereinafter Vigil) in view of 2002/0032775 A1 of Venkataramaiah et al. (hereinafter VENKA) and further in view of Pub. No.: US 2006/0129652 A1 of Petrovskaya (provisional application No.: 60/156,809, filed on SEP. 29, 1999).

With respect to claim 26, Vigil in view of VENKA discloses a system as discussed in claim 21.

Vigil and VENKA disclose substantially the invention as claimed.

Vigil and VENKA do not teach users can view search results.

However, Petrovskaya teaches search results page displays the result of the search (section 0050; also see section 0088).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil in view of VENKA with the teachings of Petrovskaya by incorporating the use of displaying the search result from a request of a user to search/query data at separate directories as disclosed (Petrovskaya's section 0050), into the system of Vigil for the purpose of managing or maintaining various data over network (Petrovskaya's section 0003).

With respect to claim 30, Vigil in view of VENKA discloses a method as discussed in claim 28.

Vigil and VENKA disclose substantially the invention as claimed.

Vigil and VENKA do not teach users can view search results.

However, Petrovskaya teaches search results page displays the result of the search (section 0050; also see section 0088).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Vigil in view of VENKA with the teachings of Petrovskaya by incorporating the use of displaying the search result from a request of a user to search/query data at separate directories as disclosed

(Petrovskaya's section 0050), into the system of Vigil for the purpose of managing or maintaining various data over network (Petrovskaya's section 0003).

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV (Written Authorization being given by Applicant (MPEP 502.03 [R-2])) or fax to (571) 273-4039 (unofficial fax number direct to examiner's office). The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (571) 272-4107.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to:

Central Fax Center: (571) 273-8300

ANH LY
JAN. 1st, 2008

JOHN BREENE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100